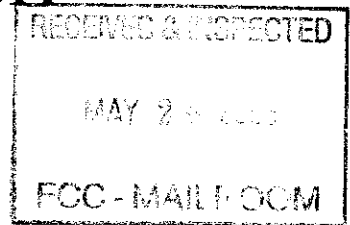


# WILDFIRE GLOBAL CHURCH

3032 Primrose Drive  
Abilene, Texas 79606



May 22, 2006

Reference: CGB-CC-0142

Amelia Brown, Disability Rights Office  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

## PETITION FOR EXEMPTION

Henry and Chong Flint, the undersigned, broadcast a weekly one-hour religious program on KRBC-TV, Abilene, and KSAN-TV, San Angelo, Texas, each Sunday morning from 12 midnight to 1 a.m.

Under the new rules of the F.C.C., the program is required to have Closed Captioning of its content.

This petition is to show that the requirement would place an un-due burden on the program's provider and would result in the program having to be discontinued.

1. Henry and Chong Flint, a married couple, have a person passion to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus to people in the area of West Texas. They have arranged to broadcast a weekly program on KRBC-TV and KSAN-TV with a weekly cost of \$125 total. Suppliers have stated that in order to provide Closed Captioning, the Flints would have to incur equipment charges of over \$2,000 for additional equipment and software and would have to incur an additional weekly cost of \$200 just to provide the required service. (see explanation of cost as attached)

Federal Communications Commission  
May 22, 2006

2. Wildfire Global Church is a "one-man operation"! Henry Flint does the actual recording of the program each week in his bedroom. He is both the camera operator and the speaker on the program. He personally hand delivers the recorded program each week to the TV stations and he and his wife Chong pay for the weekly broadcast out of their personal checking account. (see attached checking account records)
3. Wildfire Global Church has NO BUILDING, NO OFFICES, and NO ON-GOING SOURCE OF FINANCES! Contributions to the program during this past calendar year from the general public or other sources were LESS THAN \$150. (see attached affidavit)
4. Because of the small scale under which this ministry is operated and the very small weekly cost of the air time used for this television broadcast which is paid for out of a single household's personal income, the addition of more expenses would make the continuation of the broadcast impossible.

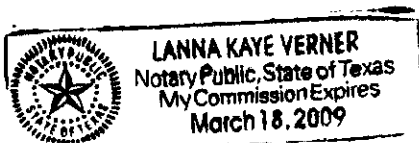
Therefore, Wildfire Global Church respectfully requests that the Federal Communications Commission grant our Petition for Exemption from the statutes that require all television program providers to have Close Captioning.

Sincerely,

  
Henry Flint, Minister


Sworn and subscribed to before me this the 22 day of May, 2006.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, Taylor County, Texas



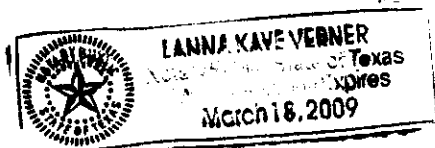
AFFADAVIT

I Henry Flint talked with Thorne Electronics on May 18, 2006, and was told that in order to incorporate Closed Captioning into my television broadcast, I would have to buy a new camera at a minimum cost of \$2,000. In addition, I would have to secure new software specifically designed to place Closed Captioning on my recording.

  
Henry Flint, Minister

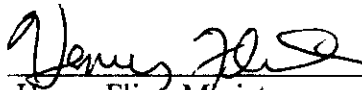
Sworn to and subscribed before me on this the 22 day of May, 2006.

  
Notary Public, Taylor County, Texas



AFFADAVIT

I Henry Flint state that total contributions from viewers or the general public to the Wildfire Global Church television ministry during calendar year 2005 were less than \$150.00.

  
Henry Flint, Minister

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this the 22 day of May, 2006.

  
Notary Public, Taylor County, Texas



LANNA KAYE VERNER  
Notary Public, State of Texas  
My Commission Expires  
March 18, 2009

## Abilene Reporter News

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### 'Mascot for God'

#### Abilene man broadcasts sermons from his spare bedroom

By Ronald W. Erdrich / Reporter-News

April 1, 2006

When Henry Flint assembles the makeshift television studio in his spare bedroom, he trades production values for family values.

About a year ago, Henry took over the local TV broadcast of Wildfire Ministries after his daughter Crystal Ray and her brother Joshua Ray moved to California. His sermons alternate with programs Crystal and Joshua continue sending to Abilene and air early Sunday mornings on KRBC-TV (Channel 9), right after "Saturday Night Live."

Henry, who lives in Abilene, records his program with a tiny video camera. A homemade banner draped behind him is illuminated by a pair of halogen construction lights. The scene is Spartan, but Henry has an answer for those who would disparage his broadcast and its reach.

"God says do not despise small beginnings," he said. "Wildfire is designed to give people hope. We reach people who never go to church on Sunday morning."

Henry stays up to watch the broadcast and to take any telephone calls from viewers. Sometimes kids dial his number to ask if they are the ninth caller to win a prize.

"I don't mind, it means they are watching," Henry said, laughing.

But sometimes the calls can be serious, especially if the caller is depressed. Henry also gets letters from inmates at local prisons thanking him for the sermons, and Henry is recognized occasionally in public.

One woman told him she appreciated his broadcast because of its honesty.

"My job is to preach God's word as I understand it," Henry said.

Unfortunately, sometimes he's the only one who can understand it.

The video camera microphone's technical limitations combined with his low-toned speaking style can garble part of the message.

But if the words get muddled, the power of faith fueling them is clearly seen.

Henry livens his free-associating sermons with metaphors and analogies, once calling himself a "mascot for God." Another time, he described himself as a tube of toothpaste squeezed on all sides by the Devil, but still coming out on top.

"God specializes in taking one camera and a guy who can hardly talk and making that a success," Henry said. "I enjoy what I'm doing. It's common-sense preaching. God didn't make the Gospel boring. We did."

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THIS IS ↓

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— Henry Flint, Abilene man who produces Wildfire Ministries



Above, Henry Flint prays for the salvation of his audience while taping a broadcast for Wildfire Global Church, which airs each week on KRBC-TV after "Saturday Night Live." At top, Henry looks into a small video camera and gives a sermon to viewers.



Henry turns on the halogen worklights he uses to turn his spare bedroom into a makeshift television studio.



Henry's wife, Chong, walks to the kitchen as he tries to understand why the DVD he made of his broadcast won't play on his living room TV. Henry usually brings the entire player with him to the television station to ensure there aren't any problems with playback.

Photographs and text by  
Ronald W. Erdrich

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